

## MINUTES

**Eugene City Council  
Harris Hall, 125 East 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Eugene, Oregon 97401**

**September 23, 2015  
12:00 p.m.**

**Councilors Present:** Betty Taylor, Alan Zelenka, George Poling, Mike Clark, Greg Evans, Claire Syrett, Chris Pryor

**Councilors Absent:** George Brown

Mayor Piercy opened the September 23, 2015, City Council work session.

**A. WORK SESSION: Human Rights Commission Annual Report and Work Plan**

Human Rights Analyst Jennifer Lleras Van Der Haeghen, Human Rights Commission Chair Andrew Thomson, and Human Rights Commission Vice Chair Chris Nunes discussed the Human Rights Commission FY15 annual report and accomplishments and outlined the commission's proposed FY16 work plan.

Council discussion:

- Report highlights a lot of important work accomplished in 2015.
- Joint council/HRC work session needed to discuss policies around homeless.
- Appreciate work in the community; support idea of a youth human rights commission.
- See role of HRC as a bridge building opportunity; request help with messaging on sensitive or politically charged issues.
- Hate and bias issues need greater attention; more community outreach required.
- Reach out to the Sustainability Commission to collaborate on social equity issues.

**MOTION AND VOTE:** Councilor Syrett, seconded by Councilor Evans, moved to approve the Human Rights Commission FY2016 work plan. **PASSED 7:0**

**B. WORK SESSION: Bethel Economic Development**

Program Manager Ethan Nelson and Bethel Economic Development Task Team members Larry Newby, Joanne Gross, Debi Farr, and Clayton Walker, gave a PowerPoint presentation discussing the task team, objectives, process, strategies, and communication.

Council discussion:

- Excellent work to-date; encouraged by this initiative.
- Grow community the way people want it; build on success.
- Work begin done can be used as a blueprint to address issues in other sections of the city.
- Timely effort to improve living conditions for residents and experience for anticipated visitors; opportunity to make a statement.

The meeting adjourned at 1:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Crockett  
Deputy City Recorder

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